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ABSTRACT

The Federal Perkins Loan, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG), and Federal Work-Study (FWS) programs are called "campus-based" programs because each school is responsible for administering them on its own campus. A school applies for and receives funds direct from the U.S. Department of Education, and the school's financial aid administrator is responsible for ensuring that eligible students receive program funds according to the provisions of the law and regulations. This volume covers the provisions common to the Perkins Loan, FSEOG, and FSW programs. Volumes 5, 6, and 7 cover each of these programs individually and contain a description of each program. Changes resulting from the Higher Education Amendments of 1998 that are common to all three programs are highlighted in this volume. These relate to allocation of a reasonable proportion of FSEOG, FWS, and Perkins funds to independent or less-than-full-time students when a school's allocation is based in part on the need of such students and to a new allocation formula. Chapter 1 of this guide discusses selecting recipients, and chapter 2, "Awarding Campus-Based Aid," explains the how to pay and how to treat overpayments. Chapter 3, "Fiscal Procedures & Record Requirements," discusses the reports and records required and the administrative cost allowance. (SLD)

2000-2001

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Volume 4: Campus-Based Common Provisions

STUDENT FINANCIAL AID HANDBOOK

Volume 4: Campus-Based Common Provisions

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Student Financial Aid Handbook

Volume 4 of 9

Volume 1: Student Eligibility

Volume 2: Institutional Eligibility and Participation

Volume 3: Pell Grant Program

Volume 4: Campus-Based Common Provisions

Volume 5: Perkins Loans

Volume 6: Federal Work-Study

Volume 7: Federal Supplemental Educational
Opportunity Grants

Volume 8: Direct Loan and FFEL Programs

Volume 9: State Grant Programs

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The Federal Perkins Loan, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG), and Federal Work-Study (FWS) programs are called “campus-based” programs because each school is responsible for administering them on its own campus.

A school applies for and receives program funds directly from the U.S. Department of Education by submitting an application, the *Fiscal Operations Report and Application to Participate* (FISAP), each award year. The school's financial aid administrator is responsible for ensuring that eligible students at the school receive program funds according to the provisions of the law, the regulations, the Program Participation Agreement (PPA) signed by both the Secretary of Education and the school's chief administrative officer, and other criteria the Department may establish. This volume covers provisions common to the Perkins Loan, FSEOG, and FWS programs. The following three volumes discuss these programs individually. For a description of each program, see the Introduction to the program's respective volume.

RECENT CHANGES

The final regulatory revisions resulting from the Amendments of 1998 that affect the campus-based programs were published October 28, 1999.

The changes that follow are common to all three campus-based programs and result from the Higher Education Amendments of 1998.

Effective October 1, if a school's FSEOG, FWS, or Federal Perkins Loan allocation is directly based in part on the financial need of less than full-time or independent students, then a school is required to offer a **reasonable proportion** of its FSEOG allocation, its FWS allocation, and the dollar amount of the loans made from its Perkins revolving fund to independent or less-than-full-time students.

Starting with the 2000-01 award year, the allocation formula changes. Under the new formula:

- the base is equal to the total of the base guarantee plus the pro rata share received for the 2000-2001 award year,
- the pro rata share is eliminated, and
- the fair share calculation is based on all the excess funds after the base guarantees are met.

Reasonable Proportion Cites
34 CFR 674.10(b)

**Campus-Based Programs
Allocation Formula Cites**

Dear Partner Letters CB-99-16 and CB-00-01, HEA Sections 413D, 442, and 462

For recent changes specific to each campus-based program, see the respective volume for each program.

PROGRAM PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

A school that wants to participate in any Student Financial Assistance (SFA) program must sign a PPA with the Department. The school official legally authorized to assume, on the school's behalf, the agreement's obligations must sign the agreement. (For more information on this agreement, see *Volume 2 - Institutional Eligibility and Participation.*)

The agreement provides that the school must use the funds it receives for a program solely for the purposes specified in the regulations for that program and that the school must administer each program in accordance with the Higher Education Act (HEA) of 1965, as amended, and the General Provisions regulations. See volume 2 for information on the General Provisions. Each of the campus-based programs has additional requirements that are part of the PPA and that are specific to the individual program; these requirements are found in the regulations for each program and in the HEA. Each program's specific requirements are discussed in that program's respective volume.

APPLICATION FOR FUNDS

To receive funds from the Department for one or more of the campus-based programs, a school must submit a FISAP each award year. All schools are required to file the FISAP data through the electronic FISAP process. The Department no longer provides or accepts paper, diskette, or magnetic tape FISAP forms. Thus, a school must use the electronic FISAP transmission process through the TIV WAN using EDEExpress to be eligible to participate (request/receive a funding allocation) in the campus-based programs.

Each July, the Department makes available the electronic FISAP for schools to use in applying for funds for the subsequent award year. The information reported must be accurate and verifiable. The deadline for transmitting the completed FISAP to the Department over the Student Aid Internet Gateway or SAIG (formerly known as TIV WAN) is October 1.

A school that has applied to participate in the campus-based programs for the first time should submit a FISAP by the deadline even if the school has not been certified to participate in the programs. The Department will calculate a funding level for the school and put the funding on "hold" status until the school has been approved to participate. See "Fiscal Operations Report" in Chapter 3 for more information.

ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

The Department allocates funds directly to schools according to the statutory formulas. The allocation (or authorization) for each program is the amount of funding the school is authorized to receive from the Department for an award year. This amount is based on the allocation formulas in the law as well as on the funds appropriated by Congress for the program. A school will not, however, receive an allocation that is in excess of its request.

The Department notifies schools of their final allocation for each campus-based program no later than April 1 by sending a copy of the school's final funding worksheet and Electronic Statement of Account (ESOA) for each program to its SAIG mailbox. This notification shows the specific steps used to calculate the awards.

If a school does not use its total allocation of funds for campus-based programs, the school must release unexpended amounts to the Department. The Department issues a Dear Partner Letter in June that tells schools to release unexpended funds by the end of August that year and asks for an estimate of the amount of funds they expect to have used by that date. Later, a school also must determine the actual amounts spent as of the end of the award year and report those amounts on the Department of Education's Central Automated Processing System (EDCAPS). The Dear Partner Letter will be posted to the Web and the software to be used will be included with the FISAP software materials.

If a school returns more than 10 percent of its allocated funds for a given award year under any one of the campus-based programs, the Department will reduce the school's allocation for the second succeeding award year by the dollar amount returned unless the Department waives this provision. For example, if the school returns more than 10 percent of its 1998-99 allocation, its 2000-01 allocation will be reduced by the dollar amount returned for 1998-99.

The Department may waive this provision for a specific school if it finds that enforcement would be contrary to the interests of the program. The Department considers enforcement to be contrary to the interest of the program only if the school returned more than 10 percent of its allocation due to circumstances that are beyond the school's control and are not expected to recur. To request a waiver, a school must submit a written explanation of the circumstances along with its FISAP transmission. The Department has explained the process a school must use to request a waiver for the 2001-2002 award year in the FISAP Instruction Booklet.

After schools release their unexpended allocations, the Department reallocates the funds to schools that have met the criteria for receiving a supplemental allocation. Criteria for distributing these funds for each program are established in accordance with the HEA and the campus-based program regulations.

2000-2001 Campus-Based Final Funding Authorization Cite

Dear Partner Letter CB-00-03

CERTIFICATIONS A SCHOOL MUST SUBMIT TO THE DEPARTMENT

Included in the FISAP package the Department distributes to schools annually is the Department Form 80-0013, *Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements* and Standard Form LLL, *Disclosure of Lobbying Activities*. To participate in the campus-based programs each award year, a school's chief executive officer, or another person who has the authority to sign on behalf of the entire school, is required to complete, sign, date, and submit to the Department the above certification forms with the school's completed FISAP by the established deadline. A detailed discussion of the certification requirements is in volume 2.

Selecting Recipients

CHAPTER

1

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

All students receiving campus-based aid must meet the general eligibility requirements listed in *Volume 1 - Student Eligibility*. Additional student eligibility requirements under each campus-based program are discussed in the respective volumes for each program.

General Eligibility Requirements Cite

34 CFR 668.32

A student enrolled as an undergraduate, graduate, or professional student is eligible to receive assistance from the Federal Perkins Loan and Federal Work-Study (FWS) programs. Only undergraduate students who do not have a baccalaureate or first professional degree are eligible to receive Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants (FSEOG's).

In choosing aid recipients, a school must develop written selection procedures that are uniformly applied and that are kept on file at the school. A school must make campus-based funds reasonably available—to the extent of available funds—to all eligible students who demonstrate financial need. (Two of the campus-based programs, the Federal Perkins Loan and FSEOG programs, require eligible students to have **exceptional** financial need.) A school is reminded that no payment of a campus-based award can be made if the student did not receive an official Expected Family Contribution (EFC).

FURTHER UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE

A student who has earned a bachelor's or first professional degree is eligible to receive aid from the Federal Perkins Loan or FWS program to pursue an **additional** undergraduate degree. However, a student who has earned a bachelor's or first professional degree is **not** eligible to receive an FSEOG to pursue another undergraduate degree.

TEACHER CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

A school may award a Federal Perkins Loan and/or FWS to a student who is enrolled or accepted for enrollment at an eligible

school on at least a half-time basis in a program that is required by a state for a professional credential or certificate for employment as an elementary or secondary teacher in that state. A student is not allowed to receive aid to cover optional courses that he or she may elect to take for professional recognition or advancement or additional optional courses recommended or required by the school. The school should document that the courses the student enrolls in are required by the state for teacher certification.

A student enrolled in a teacher certification program may be considered either an undergraduate or graduate student, depending on the school's policy. That decision is left to the school. Information about Perkins Loan limits for students in teacher certification programs is included in *Volume 5 - Perkins Loans*.

Reasonable Proportion Cites

34 CFR 674.10(b)

34 CFR 675.10(c)

LESS-THAN-FULL-TIME AND INDEPENDENT STUDENTS

Effective October 1, 1998, if a school's FSEOG, FWS, or Federal Perkins Loan allocation is directly or indirectly based in part on the financial need of less-than-full-time or independent students, then a school is required to offer a **reasonable proportion** of its FSEOG allocation, its FWS allocation, and the dollar amount of the loans made from its Perkins revolving fund to such students. Previously, a school was required to offer such students at least 5 percent of the funds if the need of all of these students exceeded 5 percent of the total need of all students at the school. For purposes of this requirement, schools are expected to have reasonable packaging policies for awarding campus-based funds. A policy of exclusion for less-than-full-time or independent students would not be acceptable.

Part-time students include correspondence students. To be considered enrolled in a program of correspondence study, the student must be enrolled in a degree-seeking program and must have completed and submitted the first lesson. A school must offer a **reasonable proportion** of its FSEOG allocation, its FWS allocation, and the dollar amount of the loans made from its Perkins revolving fund to part-time students on its eligible branch campuses as well as to part-time students on the home campus.

SPECIAL SESSIONS

A student who enrolls as a regular student in an eligible program during a special session, such as summer school, may receive campus-based aid if he or she meets the same general eligibility requirements that apply to a student enrolled in a regular session. If a student is **not** enrolled during the special session, the student is not eligible to receive campus-based aid during the period of **nonattendance**, except in the case of an FWS job, which may be awarded only if the student attended the school during the preceding term or has been accepted by the school for the subsequent term. (See *Volume 6 - Federal Work Study*.)

Awarding Campus-Based Aid

NEED-ANALYSIS FORMULAS

The Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA), as amended, provides a single methodology for determining the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) and cost of attendance (COA) for all Student Financial Assistance (SFA) programs. Need-analysis and COA are discussed in *Volume 1 - Student Eligibility*. If the student's COA exceeds his or her EFC, the student has need.

Before awarding aid from campus-based programs, the financial aid administrator must take into account aid the student will receive from other SFA Programs. The administrator must also take into account other resources that the school makes available to its students, resources about which he or she knows, or resources that the administrator can reasonably anticipate at the time aid is awarded to the student. An aid administrator may not award or disburse aid from a campus-based program if that aid, when combined with all other resources, would exceed the student's need.

If, at any time during the award period, the student receives additional resources that were not considered in calculating the student's eligibility for campus-based aid and if these resources combined with the expected financial aid will exceed the student's need, the amount in excess of the student's need is considered an overaward.

RESOURCES

Resources, as defined by the campus-based regulations, include but are not limited to:

- funds a student is entitled to receive from a Federal Pell Grant;
- William D. Ford Federal Direct Loans (Direct Loans);
- Federal Family Education Loans (FFEL's);

Maximum Campus-Based Aid Calculation

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{Financial Need} \\ - \text{Aid from other SFA programs} \\ \text{and resources} \\ \hline = \text{Maximum Campus-Based aid} \end{array}$$

Consolidated Overaward Provisions Cite

34 CFR 673.5

- long-term loans made by the school, including Federal Perkins Loans (short-term emergency loans are not considered to be a resource);
- grants, including Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOGs), state grants, and ROTC living allowances;
- scholarships, including athletic scholarships and ROTC scholarships, and scholarships that require future employment but are given in the current year;
- waivers of tuition and fees;
- fellowships or assistantships;
- veterans educational benefits paid under Chapters 30, 31, 32, and 35 of Title 38 of the U.S. Code;
- income from insurance programs that pay for the student's education;
- net income from need-based employment; and
- AmeriCorps funds (national service education awards or post-service benefits under Title I of the National and Community Service Act of 1990).

"Need-based employment" means employment that is awarded by the school itself or by another entity to a student who demonstrates a financial need for those funds for the purpose of defraying educational costs of attendance for the award year. Only income from **need-based** employment may be considered as a resource.

The net amount of a student's Federal Work-Study (FWS) earnings that will be available to help pay for his or her COA, the school must subtract estimated taxes and job-related costs from the student's gross FWS earnings (see *Volume 6 - Federal Work Study*). Any portion of the above resources that is included in the calculation of the student's EFC is not considered to be a resource.

The school may treat a Federal PLUS Loan, Direct PLUS Loan, unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loan, Direct Unsubsidized Loan, state-sponsored loan, or a private loan as a substitute for a student's EFC. However, if the sum of the loan amounts received exceeds the student's EFC, the excess is a resource.

Non-need-based earnings are not to be considered as a resource for the current award year because they will be reported as income on the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA) for the subsequent award year.

Under the new campus-based regulations 34 CFR 673.5(c)(4), you may, as an option when packaging aid, **exclude** as a resource a portion of a subsidized Stafford Loan up to the amount of the student's Chapter 30 veterans education benefits (paid under the Montgomery GI Bill) and/or AmeriCorps funds. For an example of how this exclusion factors into a student's financial aid package, see volume 1. (Chapter 30 veterans education benefits and AmeriCorps awards must be **excluded** from estimated financial assistance when determining a student's eligibility for a subsidized Stafford Loan.)

Loan Resource Exclusion Cite 34 CFR 673.5(c)(4)

This regulatory change was effective July 1, 2000, although schools were allowed to implement this regulation on or after October 28, 1999.

Noneducational veterans benefits are not counted as a resource or estimated financial assistance, as they are already counted in the EFC formula as nontaxable income. Noneducational veterans benefits include Death Pension and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) benefits.

OVERAWARDS

A financial aid administrator may not award or disburse aid from a campus-based program if that aid, when combined with all other resources, would exceed the student's need. If a student who has already been awarded a financial aid package later receives additional resources that cause his or her financial aid package to exceed his or her need, the amount in excess of the student's need is considered an overaward.

There is now a \$300 overaward threshold for all campus-based programs. The \$300 threshold is allowed only if an overaward occurs after campus-based aid has been packaged. The threshold does not allow a school to deliberately award campus-based aid that, in combination with other resources, exceeds the student's financial need.

STEPS TO TAKE IF THE RESOURCES EXCEED NEED

If a school learns that a student has received additional resources that were not included in calculating the student's eligibility for aid from the Perkins Loan, FWS, or FSEOG Program that would result in the student's total resources exceeding his or her financial need by more than \$300, the school must take the following steps:

1. If the student's aid package includes a loan under the FFEL or Direct Loan Program, the school must first follow the overaward requirements that are presented in *SFA Handbook: Direct Loan and FFEL Programs Reference*. Also, a school may attempt to reduce or eliminate the overaward by changing the function of an unsubsidized loan (a Stafford Loan, a nonfederal loan, or the parents' PLUS Loan) from covering need to replacing the EFC. (However, if the sum of the loan amounts exceeds the student's EFC, the excess must be treated as a resource.)

2. If there is no FFEL or Direct Loan in the student's aid package or if the school eliminates the FFEL or Direct Loan overaward and if, in either case, the student's total resources still exceed the student's need by more than \$300, the school must recalculate the student's need to determine whether he or she has increased need that was not anticipated when the school awarded aid to the student. If the student's need has increased and if the total resources do not exceed the increased need by more than \$300, the school is not required to take any additional action.
3. If the school recalculates the student's need and determines that the student's need has **not** increased or that his or her need has increased but that the total resources still exceed his or her need by more than \$300, the school must cancel any loan or grant (other than a Pell Grant) that has not already been disbursed.
4. If the student's total resources still exceed his or her need by more than \$300 and his or her resources include a Perkins Loan and/or FSEOG, the amount that exceeds the student's need by more than \$300 is a Perkins Loan or FSEOG overpayment.

For a student employed under the FWS Program, if the school recalculates the student's need and determines that the student's need has increased and if the total resources do not exceed that increased need by more than \$300, the school may use FWS funds to pay the student until the FWS award has been earned or until the student's increased need has been met. In addition, the school may continue employing the student under FWS after the full amount of the FWS award has been earned and the student's financial need has been met; however, the school may pay the student with FWS funds only up to the time the income from **need-based** employment exceeds the student's financial need by more than \$300. At that point, FWS funds may no longer be used to pay the student. The school may continue to employ the student, but funds other than FWS funds must be used to pay the wages.

OVERPAYMENTS

A student is liable for any overpayment of a Perkins Loan or FSEOG; the school is also liable for any overpayment that was caused by the failure of the school to follow the procedures in 34 CFR Part 668, Part 673, Part 674, Part 675, or Part 676. If the school makes a Perkins Loan or FSEOG overpayment for which it is liable, it must restore an amount equal to the overpayment plus any administrative cost allowance claimed on that amount to its Perkins Loan fund for a Perkins Loan overpayment or to its FSEOG account for an FSEOG overpayment.

If the school makes an overpayment of Perkins Loan advances or FSEOG for which it is not liable (for example, when a student has

made a mistake on the application), the school must promptly attempt to recover the overpayment by sending a written notice to the student requesting the repayment of the amount of the overpayment. The notice must state that, if the student fails to repay the overpayment, or fails to make arrangements satisfactory to the holder of the overpayment debt to repay the overpayment, the student will be ineligible for additional SFA funds until final resolution of the overpayment.

If a student claims that the school has made a mistake in determining the Perkins Loan or FSEOG overpayment, the school must consider any information provided by the student and determine whether the objection is warranted.

If the school made an FSEOG overpayment for which it is not liable, and the federal share of an FSEOG overpayment is **\$25 or more**, the school may be required to refer the overpayment to the U.S. Department of Education for collection. A school must refer the FSEOG overpayment case to the Department's Student Receivables Division for collection if all of the following conditions apply to the overpayment:

- the school has sent the required notice to recover the overpayment,
- the school determines that the student's objection (if any) is not warranted,
- either the school has failed to collect the FSEOG overpayment or the student has failed to make arrangements satisfactory to the school to repay the overpayment, **and**
- the federal share of an FSEOG overpayment is **\$25 or more**.

If the school is required to refer the FSEOG overpayment to the Department for collection, the school must identify the Federal share of the overpayment; the student's name, most recent address, and telephone number; and other relevant information. See volume 1 for additional information. After referring the overpayment case to the Department for collection, the school is not required to make any further attempt to collect the FSEOG overpayment. If the school is unable to collect the overpayment and the federal share is **less than** \$25, the school is not required to make any further attempt to collect the overpayment.

COORDINATION WITH BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS GRANTS

To determine the amount of campus-based aid for a student who is or may be eligible for a BIA grant, a school must first develop a financial aid package without considering any BIA funds. If the total aid package—after BIA funds are added—does not exceed the

student's need, no adjustment may be made to the aid package. If the total package plus the BIA grant does exceed need, the school must eliminate the excess in the following sequence: loans, work-study awards, and grants other than Pell Grants. (The school may **not** reduce a Pell Grant or BIA grant.) The school may alter this sequence of reductions upon the student's request if the school believes the change would benefit the student. In determining the amount of financial need for a student eligible for a BIA grant, a financial aid administrator is encouraged to consult with area officials in charge of BIA postsecondary financial aid.

Fiscal Procedures & Record Requirements

For information on general fiscal procedures and records requirements for all Student Financial Assistance (SFA) programs, refer to Volume 2 - Institutional Eligibility and Participation, the current edition of the Blue Book, and 34 CFR 668.

FISCAL OPERATIONS REPORT

FISAP Requirement

34 CFR 673.3

As discussed in the Introduction to this Part, a school must submit an application (*Fiscal Operations Report and Application to Participate* [FISAP]) for each award year to receive federal funds under the campus-based programs. The school uses the Fiscal Operations Report portion of the FISAP to report its expenditures under the campus-based programs in the previous award year. All schools are required to file the FISAP data through the electronic FISAP process.

Each July, the U.S. Department of Education provides the electronic FISAP for schools to use in applying for funds for the subsequent award year and in reporting expenditures for the previous award year. Materials essential for the preparation and submission of the *1999-00 Fiscal Operations Report and 2001-02 Application to Participate* will be distributed to schools in July 2000. A school that sends the FISAP to the Department by the October 1, 2000 deadline will receive its tentative 2001-02 funding notifications in a Dear Colleague letter in January 2001. Final 2001-02 funding notifications will be sent to schools in March 2001.

In July 2000, the Department will make available through the SAIG the FISAP packages schools must complete to apply for funds for the 2001-02 award year. Questions concerning the preparation of the FISAP should be referred to Campus-Based Operations at (202) 708-7741 or by fax (202) 205 1919 or by e-mail at CBFOB@ed.gov. Questions about prior-year data listed on a FISAP should be referred to a FISAP Administrator at (877) 801-7168.

FISCAL PROCEDURES

A school must disburse SFA program funds on a payment period basis, with the exception of FWS payments to students. Cash management requirements that apply to all SFA programs are discussed in detail in volume 2. The cash management requirements that apply specifically to each campus-based program are discussed in that program's respective volume.

Records Cites

Perkins Loan Repayment Records

34 CFR 674.19(e)(3)

Records Under Question

34 CFR 668.24(e)(3)

Records Necessary to Enforce Loan Collection

34 CFR 674.19(e)(4)

Format of Records

34 CFR 668.24(d)

CAMPUS-BASED PROGRAM RECORDS

A school must keep financial records that reflect all campus-based program transactions and must keep all records supporting the school's application for campus-based funds. This documentation includes the applications and records of all students who applied for campus-based assistance for a specific award year and were included on the school's FISAP for that award year. The school must also retain applications and records of students who applied for but did not receive aid either because the school had no more funds to award or because the school determined that the student did not need funds. The school must keep general ledger control accounts and related accounts that identify each program transaction and must separate those transactions from all other institutional financial activity. Fiscal records must be reconciled at least monthly.

Recordkeeping requirements as they apply in general to all SFA programs are discussed in volume 2. In addition to meeting those requirements, a school must meet certain campus-based program recordkeeping requirements.

The campus-based records a school must maintain include but are not limited to:

- the *Student Aid Report (SAR)* or *Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR)* used to determine a student's eligibility for campus-based program funds;
- application data submitted to the Department or the school on behalf of the student;
- documentation of the payment of an return of Title IV funds or overpayment to the SFA program fund or the Department;
- documentation of the amount of a Perkins Loan, FSEOG or FWS award, its payment period, and the calculations used to determine the amount of the loan, grant, or FWS award;
- documentation of each FSEOG or Perkins Loan disbursement and the date and amount of each payment of FWS wages;
- documentation of the school's calculation of any refunds or overpayments due to or on behalf of the student and the amount, date, and basis of the school's calculation;
- documentation of the payment of any refund or overpayment to the SFA program fund or the Department;
- information collected at initial and exit loan counseling required by Perkins Loan regulations; and
- reports and forms used by the school in its participation in a campus-based program, and any records needed to verify data that appear in those reports and forms.

For each Perkins Loan borrower, a school must maintain a repayment history. See *Volume 5 - Perkins Loans* for more information.

A school must also follow the procedures established in 34 CFR 675.19 for documenting a student's FWS work, earnings, and payroll transactions. These procedures are discussed in *Volume 6 - Federal Work Study*.

Generally, a school must keep records relating to the school's administration of a campus-based program or the Pell Grant Program for three years after the end of an award year for which the aid was awarded and disbursed under that program, with these exceptions:

- The school must keep the FISAP in the Perkins Loan, FSEOG, and FWS programs and any records necessary to support the data contained in the FISAP, including "income grid information," for three years after the end of the award year in which the FISAP is submitted.
- The school must keep repayment records for Perkins Loans, including records relating to cancellation and deferment requests for at least three years from the date a loan is assigned to the Department, canceled, or repaid.
- Records questioned in an audit or program review must be kept until the questions are resolved or until the end of the retention period applicable to the records, whichever is later.

A school must keep its campus-based program records in one of the following formats:

- Original signed promissory notes and signed repayment schedules for Perkins Loans, National Direct Student Loans (NDSLs), or National Defense Student Loans (Defense Loans) must be kept in a locked fireproof container until the loan is repaid or until the school needs the originals in order to enforce collection of the loan. If a loan is assigned to the Department, the school must send the original promissory note or a certified copy of the note, as well as a copy of the original deferment or cancellation form(s). The school may not send computer-generated form(s) or microform(s). (Refer to volume 5.)
- A school may keep other required records in hard copy or in microform, computer file, optical disk, CD-ROM, or other media formats, but all record information must be retrievable in a coherent hard copy format or in other media formats acceptable to the Department except that (1) a student's SAR or ISIR used to determine eligibility for SFA program funds must be kept in the format in which the school received it, except that the SAR may be kept in an "imaged media format;" and (2) any document that contains a signature, seal, certification, or any other image or mark required to validate the authenticity of

its information must be kept in its original hard copy or in an imaged media format.

- Any “imaged media format” used to keep required records must be capable of reproducing an accurate, legible, and complete copy of the original document, and, when printed, this copy must be approximately the same size as the original.

ADMINISTRATIVE COST ALLOWANCE

A school participating in the campus-based programs is entitled to an allowance to help offset administrative costs, such as salaries, furniture, travel, supplies, and equipment. The allowance can also be used for service fees that banks charge for maintaining accounts. Computer costs associated with Perkins Loan billing may also be paid from this allowance. Schools may use the allowance to help pay the costs of administering not only the campus-based programs but the Federal Pell Grant Program as well. Administrative costs also cover expenses for carrying out the student consumer information services requirements.

A school may use up to 10 percent of the administrative cost allowance attributable to the school’s FWS Program expenditures to offset expenses incurred for its community service program.

Each school’s administrative cost allowance is based on its expenditures for all three programs, **excluding** the amount of Perkins Loans assigned to the Department.

When a school calculates its administrative cost allowance for the 2000-2001 award year, the school is to include in its calculation the full amount of its FSEOG awards—both the 75-percent federal share and the required 25-percent nonfederal share. However, a school that chooses to provide more than a 25-percent institutional share to FSEOG recipients may not include an FSEOG institutional share in excess of 25-percent in its FISAP or in the calculation of its administrative cost allowance. If the Department has granted a school a waiver of its required institutional share for the FSEOG Program or the FWS Program, that school’s administrative cost allowance may be calculated only on the full federal portion of its awards for those programs.

The school takes the administrative cost allowance out of the annual authorizations the school receives for the FSEOG and FWS programs and from the available cash on hand in its Perkins Loan fund. It is not a separate allowance sent to the school. A school may draw its allowance from any combination of campus-based programs, or it may take the total allowance from only one program provided there are sufficient funds in that program. However, a school may not draw any part of its allowance from a campus-based program unless the school has disbursed funds to students from that program during the award year.

Administrative Cost Allowance (ACA) Calculation

$$\begin{array}{r} 5\% \text{ of the first } \$2,750,000 \text{ of a school's expenditures under the campus-based programs} \\ + \\ 4\% \text{ of expenditures greater than } \$2,750,000 \text{ but less than } \$5,500,000 \text{ under the} \\ \text{campus-based programs} \\ + \\ 3\% \text{ of expenditures greater than } \$5,500,000 \text{ under the campus-based programs} \end{array}$$

A school may use up to 10 percent of the administrative cost allowance, as calculated above, as attributable to your expenditures under the FWS program to pay the administrative costs of conducting its program of community service. These costs may include:

- 1) Developing mechanisms to assure the academic quality of a student's experience;
- 2) Assuring student access to educational resources, expertise, and supervision necessary to achieve community service objectives; and
- 3) Collaborating with public and private nonprofit agencies and programs assisted under the National and Community Service Act of 1990 in the planning, development, and administration of these programs.



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